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U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
Public Health Service





RULES, REGULATIONS

AND

ORDERS

OF THE

BOARD OF HEALTH OF BOSTON,

RELATIVE TO

THE POLICE OF SAID TOWN.



PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE BOARD.

1814.

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Internal Health Regulations.

IN BOARD OF HEALTH,

Boston, April 18, A.D. 1814.

ORDERED, That the following RULES and REGULATIONS appear to this Board to be necessary, to remove and prevent NUISANCES and Sources of Filth in the Town of BOSTON, and the same Rules and Regulations are hereby ordered by said Board of Health to have effect, within the limits of said Town of Boston, and have the force of law, from and after Monday, the twenty-fifth of April, A. D. 1814.

House Dirt, &c.

ARTICLE 1. No person or persons shall be allowed to throw or bring into any street, square, lane, or alley, any house dirt, silth, or sweepings of any kind, or any decayed vegetable, or dead animal substance. But all such house dirt, silth, sweepings, or vegetable, or animal substance, shall be deposited in such vessels as will not contain liquids, and kept in some convenient situation for the drivers of the Scavengers' carts to take away. And no person shall be allowed to cast any dead animals, vegetable substances, or sweepings of any vessel, into any of the docks, the mill-pond, or any other place between the channel and the shore; nor to land the same, or any foul and infected ballast, or other substance, on any wharf, or landing place, within the town. And any dead animal thrown into the channel shall have a sufficient weight affixed to it, to prevent its floating to the shore.

Removal of Dirt, &c.

ART. 2. Whenever any quantity of dirt, faw-dust, soot, shavings, straw, animal or vegetable substance, or filth of any kind, shall be found in any cellar, yard, or other premises, or be thrown into any street, square, lane, or alley; the owner, or occupier of such cellar, yard, or other premises, where sound; or the owner, or occupier of the premises from whence such dirt, saw-dust, &c. had been removed, shall cause the same to be carried away,

at his, or her expense, within four hours after notification, in writing from this Board.—And all carts, or waggons, employed in the carting earth, clay, fand, or dirt of any kind, shall have and use good and sufficient fore and hind boards, and otherways sufficiently tight to prevent the said earth, sand, clay, or dirt, from dropping in the streets through which they may pass.

Waste Water.

ART. 3. The owners or occupiers of houses, buildings, or lands, shall cause all waste water from their premises to be conveyed from their cellars, yards, sinks, pumps, and vacant lands, through drains under ground to common sewers; or to such reservoirs, sunk under ground to receive the same, as a committee of this Board shall approbate.

Vaults, Privies, &c.

ART. 4. The owners of vaults or privies, and the occupiers of the house or houses, store or stores, to which they belong, or are attached, shall not permit the contents of such vaults, or privies, to rise within two feet of the surface of the earth; and if such contents are found within two feet of such surface, the owner or owners, occupier or occupiers, will be prosecuted without surface previous notice. And no vault, or privy, shall be emptied without a permit from this Board, and by persons authorized for that purpose.

Stables, and Stable Manure.

ART. 5. The owners or occupiers of livery and other stables, shall not permit more than two cart loads of manure to accumulate and remain in or near their stables, at any one time, between the first day of May and the first day of November—and shall keep their stables and stable yards clean and decent.

Market Stalls.

ART. 6. Persons occupying stalls in Faneuil-Hall, Boylston or Parkman's market-houses, or the Market-place, and Dock-square, shall daily, in the morning, during the months of June, July, August, September, and October, wash or cleanse their respective stalls—They shall not permit any heads, seet, or offals of dead animals, or vegetables of any kind, to remain in or about

their stalls, over night—They shall take up, and remove the platforms of their respective stalls, on the sirst day of June, and shall not replace them until the first day of November ensuing; during which period, meats of any kind shall not be exposed in the markets, or any other place within the town, excepting in stalls, carts, or other vehicles, which shall be covered from the rays of the sun; nor expose for sale any mutton or lamb with the feet on the same.

Damaged Grain, Rice, and Coffce.

ART. 7. No person shall be allowed to land on any wharf, or put on shore, from any boat or vessel, or bring into town by land, any damaged grain, rice, or cossee, without a permit from this Board.

Swine and Goats.

ART. 8. Swine and goats shall not be kept within the limits of the town by any person, without a license from this Board, and in such place and manner as the Board shall approve.

Fresh Fish.

ART. 9. All Fish, before brought into this town, shall be first gutted, and the sish made clean. Fresh Fish, (excepting such as are named in the succeeding article) shall not be offered for sale between the 1st day of May, and the 1sth day of October, unless kept in covered stalls, sish-boxes, or other houses situated over the salt water:—And fresh sish offered for sale in the streets before the 1st day of May, and after the 1sth day of October, shall be kept clean in covered carts, barrows, &c.

Salmon and small Fish.

ART. 10. Salmon, Shad, Bass, Mackarel, Tautoug, Eels, Flounders, Tomcods, Smelts, and other small siste, may be sold at all times, in any part of the town, provided they be kept secure from the rays of the sun; but venders thereof will be held responsible for any nuisance created thereby.—Provided, however, that Salmon and Bass, brought to town by sea, may be sold, and landed therein, when cleansed of their entrails; which entrails are to be kept on board, in tight vessels, and removed beyond low water mark at every time of high water—And that no person take a stand in or near the Faneuil-Hall market, for the sale of such siste a sare allowed by this article, but at the north

fide of faid market-house, at the place provided by the Clerk of

faid market for that purpofe.

And whereas fick persons are much distressed by the practice of blowing horns, trumpets, and other wind instruments, by Fishermen and others, to call the attention of the people to their occupations and business, and the same is injurious to the health of the inhabitants, therefore, ordered—that horns, trumpets, or other wind instruments, shall not be blown or sounded, by any Fisherman or other person, to the injury or disturbance of any sick person.

Oysters.

ART. 11. Oysters shall not be offered for sale within the limits of the town, between the 5th day of July and the 1st day of September.

Feathers, Rags, &c.

ART. 12. Feathers, old or new, shall not be landed, or brought within the limits of the town, between the 1st day of May and the 1st day of November, without a permit from this office, after a previous examination by the person authorized by this Board—And seather, and other beds, bedding, clothing, or rags, shall not be landed, or brought into this town from any place where any contagious disease doth, or hath recently prevailed, unless by special permission of this Board.

These Regulations, in addition to those enumerated by the Act empowering the Town of Boston to choose a Board of Health, and other laws relating to faid Board, being effential to the prefervation of the health of the Town, it is the determination of the Board of Health most rigidly to enforce their execution, and to profecute all violators-And, as heavy penalties are by law attached to the breach of any or either of them, the faid Board request their Constituents to cause these Regulations to be made known to all persons under their direction, and read to their domestics; and also to affift the Board in their due execution.-Complaints of any breaches thereof, or any neglect or inattention, in any person employed or licensed by the Board, are folicited; and those who complain may rely on all proper fecrecy.

BENJAMIN WHITMAN, President.

Police of Burying-Grounds.

IN BOARD OF HEALTH,

Boston, April 18, A. D. 1814.

ORDERED, That the following RULES and REGULATIONS for the Interment of the Dead in the Town of BOSTON, for Funerals and Funeral Processions in faid Town, for the Police of Burying Grounds in faid Town, and the following Penalties and Fees respecting the same, be and the same are hereby fixed and established by the Board of Health of the Town of Boston, and that the same commence and have effect from and after the first day of June next.

ARTICLE I.

Police of the Burying-Grounds and Cemeteries.

SECT. 1. To execute the Police of the Burying-Grounds and Cemeteries, there shall be one Superintendant elected by ballot, who on acceptance of the trust shall give satisfactory bonds for the faithful performance of the duties required, and whose jurisdiction shall extend to all the Burial-Grounds and Cemeteries within the town, and his Office shall be kept in a central situation. It shall be the duty of each Superintendant to keep the fences, walls, and gates of the respective Grounds and Cemeteries in complete repair, and properly fecured by locks and bolts:—To point out the place, depth and width of every grave to be dug therein:—To cause the graves to be dug in exact ranges, parallel with, and as near to each other, as may be :- And to fee that the graves be fo filled and elevated, and the turf replaced, that water may not fragnate thereon:-To cause the tombs opened in the respective Cemeteries, between the first of July and the 30th of September, to be closed and pointed with lime within twenty-four hours after the deposit of bodies therein; and to direct the Warden of the feveral Churches to which Cemeteries belong, to cause at least three bushels of good stone lime to be flacked therein, on the 1st and 15th days of July, August and September .- To record in a book to be kept for that purpose, the name, age, and sex of each person interred; the samily to which the deceased belonged; the disease or cause of death; and whether citizen or ftranger; the time when interred; the number of the grave, and the number of the range where buried, or the tomb where deposited.

- The Superintendant shall permit the family of any person hereaster buried in any grave in the North and South Burial Grounds, to place within twelve months after the burial of fuch person, a stone of the following dimensions, viz:-Length 4 1-2 feet; breadth I foot 10 inches; thickness 3 1-2 inches, having the person's name and age, the number of the grave, and the number of the range, cut thereon, placed perpendicular 6 inches from the head of the grave, and fettled in the earth 18 inches from a level furface; which being recorded by the Superintendant, fuch grave shall be referved for the use of the same family for twenty years; and graves may be re-opened for members of the fame family, provided the top of any coffin put therein be not within three feet of the furface of the ground. The bottom of the first coffin buried in any grave in the North Burying-Ground shall be at least eight feet from the furface of the ground; and the bottom of the first coffin buried in any grave in the South Burying-Ground, shall be at least fix feet fix inches from the surface of the ground.
- SECT. 3. A new range of Graves shall not be commenced until the preceding range is entirely taken up by the deposit of a body or bodies in each grave.
- SECT. 4. A corpfe shall not be deposited for a temporary purpose iu any of the Public Vaults, without the license of this Board.
- SECT.5. When a corpfe shall be deposited in any of the Public Vaults, the same shall be afterwards removed and interred agreeably to the regulations of the Board, and in the manner and time expressed in a license of the Board for said deposit. And for a faithful execution of the same, every person concerned in said deposit, removal and interment, shall severally be responsible.
- SECT. 6. When a corpse is deposited in a Public Vault, in addition to the Superintendant's fees, there shall be paid to the use of the town one dollar for each adult, and fifty cents for each child, to be collected by the Superintendant.
- SECT. 7. The Superintendant shall, on the Monday of each week, make a return to the Health-Office of the persons interred in the Grounds and Cemeteries in his care; which return shall comprise a copy of all the particulars required to be recorded by the first section of these Regulations; that from such returns this Board, from time to time, may publish Bills of Mortality for the town.

ARTICLE II.

Funeral Cars.

SECT. 1. The Funeral Cars shall be under the care of the Superintendant, and shall be deposited for safe keeping in places provided therefor. It shall be the duty of the Superintendant to keep them clean and in good repair; and only permit Funeral Undertakers, licensed by this Board, to use the same, on the payment of the see established by these regulations. The Superintendant to account monthly to the Treasurer of this Board for such sees.

ARTICLE III.

Funeral Undertakers.

SECT. 1. A fufficient number of Funeral Undertakers shall be appointed and licensed by this Board, who shall be responsible for the decent, orderly and faithful management of the Funerals undertaken by them; and for a strict compliance with these Regulations. Each Undertaker may employ sober and discreet Porters to assist them; and shall be accountable to this Board for their conduct. Persons not licensed as Undertakers, are forbid the undertaking of any sunder the penalty of twenty dollars for each offence.

ARTICLE IV.

Funerals, &c.

SECT. 1. All Funerals shall be between sun-rising and sun-fetting, except when otherwise ordered by this Board, in cases of the prevalence of contagious and malignant diseases, and shall pass through or into at least one principal street. There shall be but one bell tolled at any suneral; which bell shall be tolled no longer than one hour, and no oftener than two strokes in a minute; and the bells of the North Church shall not be chimed more than fifteen minutes for one suneral procession. The corpse of every person over ten years of age, shall be conveyed to the grave or tomb in a Funeral Car, to be drawn by not more than two horses: Provided however, that on extraordinary occasions, permission may be obtained of this Board, on regular application, to dispense with any of the rules contained in this article.

SECT. 2. The Superintendant shall designate suitable places in the North and South Burying-Grounds, for the burial of people of colour, under the direction of this Board.

ARTICLE V.

Fines, &c.

SECT. 1. If the Superintendant shall violate any or either of these regulations, he shall, on conviction, forfeit and pay a fine of

fifty dollars. If an Undertaker shall violate any or either of these regulations, he shall, on conviction, forfeit and pay a fine of thirty dollars; and if any other person or persons shall violate or transgress them, he or they shall, on conviction, forfeit and pay a fine of twenty dollars. One moiety of which fines shall be to the use of the person or persons who shall prosecute therefor, and the other moiety to the use of the town of Boston.

SEC. 2. The Superintendants, Funeral Undertakers, and Porters shall at all times be removeable at the pleasure of this Board.

Fees, &c.

SEC. 1. There shall be collected and paid for services in the execution of these regulations, the following sees, viz:—

For the Superintendant—For each grave dug, feventy-five cents, except for fuch perfons as are buried at the expense of the town; for each tomb or public vault opened, fifty cents. For the record of each person buried or entombed, twenty-five cents. For the use of the Car at each funeral, two dollars.

The fees for opening graves, tombs and public vaults to be collected from the families of the persons interred. The recording fees to be paid quarterly by warrant on the Town-Treasurer.

Fees for the Undertakers—For digging a grave 8 feet deep, and covering the same, two dollars; for one 6 feet 6 inches deep, one dollar and fifty cents; for one 5 feet deep, one dollar and twenty-five cents; and for 4 feet deep, one dollar.—For opening and closing a tomb, feventy-five cents. For service at the house of a person deceased, in collecting and returning chairs, and other attendance, one dollar; for every family notified by request, five cents; for tolling a bell, fifty cents; for placing a corpse in cossin when requested, one dollar; for the use of one horse, in the Car, one dollar; for two horses, feventy-five cents each; for carrying a corpse from the house to the Car, and from the Car to the grave, tomb or vault, and removal of the same from the Public Vault, to the place of interment, including the assistance of Funeral Porters and the leader or leaders of the Funeral Car, three dollars.

- SEC. 2. When a corpfe is carried into a church, the Funeral Undertaker may make an additional charge of two dollars; and whenever the ground shall be frozen, the charge for digging graves may be augmented at the discretion of this Board.
- Sec. 3. For burial of children under ten years of age, viz:—Digging a grave 3 1-2 feet deep, feventy-five cents; fervice at the house, one dollar; tolling bell, fifty cents; carrying the corpse to

the carriage, and from the carriage to the place of deposit, fifty cents; for the use of a pall, twenty five cents.

ARTICLE VII.

Burying-Grounds.

SEC. 1. The Central, Chapel and Granary Burying-Grounds are closed so far, that no graves shall be opened or dug, nor tombs built therein, until the further order of this Board.

SEC. 2. The old part of the North Burying-Ground is also closed so far, that no graves shall be opened or dug therein, excepting in the places appropriated for the interment of people of colour, under the direction of this Board. Persons may have leave to erect tombs in the new part of the North Burying-Ground, and the South Burying-Ground, under the direction, and on the conditions prescribed by this Board.

By Order of the Board of Health,

BENJAMIN WHITMAN, President.

Quarantine Regulations for 1814.

IN BOARD OF HEALTH,

Boston, April 18, A. D. 1814.

ORDERED AND DIRECTED, That the following Rules, Regulations, Restrictions, Qualifications and Directions, shall constitute the Quarantine Regulations of this Board, on all Vessels, &c. which shall arrive within the Harbour of Boston, from any port or place, until the further order of this Board; and that the same be published in the Newspapers employed by this Board, for general information, viz.

ARTICLE I.

Quarantine of Vessels.

Section 1. On and after the 16th day of May next, a quarantine shall be had of all vessels, their officers, crews, passengers, and cargoes, that come within the harbour of Boston, which are from, or have touched at any port or place within the tropics, or from any of the West-India Islands, or any port or place where contagious sickness doth, or hath recently prevailed—of all vessels on board of which any person shall have died of any disease, or been sick during their homeward passage, excepting vessels coming from places beyond the Cape of Good Hope, where no contagious or malignant disease was known to be prevalent previous to their departure—or from the islands of St. Helena or Ascension.

Sec. 2. The quarantine above directed, shall be had near Rainsford's Island, under the direction of the Visiting Physician, and other officers of this Board; and shall continue on every vessel which has had twenty-two, or a less number of days passage, until she shall have made up twenty-five days from the day she left her last port; and on each vessel which has had twenty-three or more days passage, seventy-two bours in addition to such passage. And on every vessel, on board which, during her homeward passage, any person shall have died (excepting from accident or casualty) the quarantine shall be extended to 25 days from the last death.—And no vessel shall be considered as having commenced quarantine, until she shall have been anchored in her proper sta-

tion on quarantine ground, as directed by the Visiting Physician, or other officers of this Board.

SEC. 3. The masters, officers, crews, and passengers of all vessels, when on quarantine, shall be subject to the Regulations of this Board, and such others as may be adopted by the Visiting Physician:—and the master of each vessel shall be accountable for the appearance on board his vessel, at the time she shall be discharged from quarantine, of all and every person who arrived in her, or who may have been landed from her in any port of the United States, or put on board any other vessel, during her homeward passage, cases of death excepted.

Sec. 4. In extraordinary cases, the Committee of the Week is authorized to direct the above periods of quarantine to be prolonged.

SEC. 5. Veffels not otherwise subject to quarantine, having only fmall pox on board, may be discharged whenever the Visiting Physician shall consider them free from infection.

SEC. 6. Every mafter of a veffel shall, within twenty-four hours after being discharged from quarantine, deliver at the Health Office in Faneuil-Hall, the certificates and slags he shall have received from the Visiting Physician, or Island Keeper, and shall, on paying the sum of ten dollars, receive a counter certificate from the Secretary of this Board, to entitle his vessel to entry at the Custom-house.

SEC. 7. When any veffel has been quarantined, examined, and attended, and the mafter is defirous of leaving the ground, with his veffel, for any other port, he shall, previous to his receiving his certificate of discharge, pay to the Visiting Physician the established sees.

SEC. 8. During the time a vessel shall be on quarantine, on application made to this Board to permit the unlading and conveyance to town of any wine, rum, spirits, salt, sugar, molasses, mahogany, dye-woods, tobacco, preserved or other fruits, and such other articles as shall be declared incapable of receiving or conveying infection, and when permission to unlade the same shall have been obtained from the Custom-house; it shall be lawful for the Committee for the Week to authorize the Visiting Physician of this Board, to permit such articles to be unladen from any vessel on quarantine, and the same to be conveyed to town, by Lightermen duly licensed by this Board for that purpose.—And the Visiting Physician shall grant a certificate thereof, to be deposited in the Health Office, for which twenty sive cents shall be paid:—And the lighters to be employed in the transportation of such uninfected articles, shall, when unemployed, be anchored off the

fouth-east part of Rainsford's Island; and the Lightermen employed therein, shall not be permitted to land in town, without the permission of the Visiting Physician.

ARTICLE II.

Mediterranean Vessels.

Sec. 1. Every master of a vessel who, on and after the 16th day of May next, until the further order of this Board, shall arrive from Gibraltar, or any port or place within the Streights, shall carry and anchor his vessel on quarantine ground, where she shall be examined by the Visiting Physician, who may permit her to pass immediately, if it appears to him that the public health will not be endangered thereby—And the master of such vessel shall receive a counter certificate from the Secretary of this Board, to entitle his vessel to entry at the Custom-house, on his paying him the sum of five dollars.

ARTICLE III.

Vessels to be reported.

SEC. 1. The masters of all vessels, which, on and after the 16th day of May next, shall arrive from any port or place not subject to quarantine, shall, previous to entry at the Custom-house, make report at the Health-Office, in Faneuil-Hall, of the state and condition of their crews, passengers, and cargoes, and of all other circumstances which may concern the public health. If found to be from a port free of contagious disease, the master of each vessel shall receive a certificate to permit the entry of such vessel, at the Custom-house, for which 25 cents shall be paid; if otherwise, the vessel, crew, and passengers, shall be sent to Rainsford's Island, on quarantine.

ARTICLE IV.

Vessels from Out-Ports.

SEC. I. Every vessel which shall arrive, and enter at any outport from any of the ports or places mentioned in the first article of these regulations, and shall afterwards come to this port, shall be subject to quarantine, unless the master produces a correct certificate from the Board of Health, or Selectmen of such out-port, that such vessel has been at least twenty-sive days from such ports or places, that during that time no person has died, (excepting by accident or casualty) or been sick on board; and that such vessel has been duly examined, and thoroughly purified, or cleansed.

ARTICLE V.

Infected Vessels.

SEC. 1. All veffels, from any port or place whatever, having, on their homeward paffage, had one or more persons sick on board,

shall, at all feafons of the year, be liable to perform quarantine, if, in the opinion of the Visiting Physician, it shall be necessary.

ARTICLE VI.

The Duty and Power of the Visiting Physician.

SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the Visiting Physician of this Board, to visit Rainsford's Island every day when there are three or more vessels on quarantine; and, when less than three, as often as the Committee of the Week shall prescribe. He shall direct in what manner veffels are to be cleanfed; what articles shall be landed, washed, buried, or destroyed;—He shall order the sick to be landed, if necessary; shall attend all the fick at said Island, prefcribe according to his best ikill and judgment to their relief; and find all medicine;—He shall be allowed to charge each fick perfon for fuch attendance, provided his charge does not exceed three dollars for common cases; but he may increase the charge for extraordinary cases, deemed such by the Committee of the Week; and he shall report, at least once a week, the number of such sick persons under his care at the Island, the length of time they have been confined there; and, when discharged, shall immediately present his account for attendance, to the Committee of the Week, a record of which shall be entered on the Journal kept by that Committee;—He shall direct the pilots where to anchor vessels; and they are hereby required to obey his directions; -He shall deliver to the mafter of each veffel arriving on quarantine, a copy of the Quarantine Regulations of this Board; -He may establish rules and regulations for the prefervation of good order on the Island, and to promote the defigns of quarantine, fuch rules and regulations being under the control of this Board; -He shall, from time to time, report to the Committee of the Week, the state of veffels on quarantine;—He shall grant a certificate of discharge to each veffel having duly performed quarantine; -and generally, it shall be his duty to do and perform all things necessary to carry the Regulations of Quarantine into complete effect.

ARTICLE VII.

The Secretary's Quarantine Duty.

SEC. 1. The Secretary of this Board shall receive the Visiting Physician's certificates of discharge; shall give counter certificates to entitle such vessels to entry at the Custom-house; shall receive the sees required for such certificate, and all other sees, and the same pay to the Treasurer;—He shall make the necessary inquiries of all masters of vessels reporting at this office; shall note the same; and shall receive and communicate at every meeting of this Board, the reports received from the Island.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Island Keeper's Duty.

SEC. I. The Island Keeper or his affiltants shall attend the purification of all vessels, clothing, bedding, persons, &c. at quarantine, agreeably to the directions of the Visiting Physician;—shall board and attend the fick, and find nurses;—and shall be allowed five dollars each week for the board and nursing each fick person at the Island; to be collected as the fees of the Visiting Physician are by law collected or assumed;—and shall employ two persons to ply the Island boat, during the time a general quarantine is required;—and shall communicate to the Health-Office information of the arrival of vessels at the Island, as they occur; and of any event which may require the attendance of the Visiting Physician at the Island; shall carry supplies to vessels on quarantine, when delivered on board the boat, and shall be held to conform to all the directions of this Board, in all matters respecting quarantine.

SEC. 2. In the absence of the Visiting Physician, the Island Keeper or his affistants are charged with the police of the Island, agreeably to the laws and rules thereof.

ARTICLE IX.

No person, not on quarantine, shall be allowed to visit Rainfford's Island, during the time of quarantine, without producing 2 permit from the Secretary of this Board, for which 25 cents shall be paid for each person; but no certificate shall be valid, unless presented within twenty-four hours from the date thereof.

By order of the Board,

BENJAMIN WHITMAN, Prefident.

IN BOARD OF HEALTH,

Boston, April 18, A.D. 1814.

ORDERED, That all veffels that hereafter shall be on quarantine ground, under the Quarantine Regulations of this Board, in case of any well-apprehended danger from arrest by an enemy, during the existence of War, every such vessel, having first been visited by the Physician of this Board, and by him found to be so far free from contagious sickness, as that she may approach nearer the Town without danger to the inhabitants, shall be permitted to change her quarantine ground, and anchor at the place called President's Road, near Fort Independence, and there remain, under the Quarantine Regulations of this Board; and all concerned shall govern themselves accordingly.

Med. Hist. WZ 270 B744ru 1814 c.l.

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